

13, the current discharged from the storage battery module 212 decreases, and the discharge voltage of the storage battery module 212 increases accordingly. From time t3 on, the rate of decrease of the remaining capacity of the storage battery module 212 decreases, and the rate of decrease of the discharge voltage decreases.

[0221] On the other hand, the discharge of the storage battery module 211 is normally continued. Thus, at time t4, the storage battery module 211 reaches V8, which is the empty capacity voltage, ahead of the storage battery module 212. As a result, the discharge is stopped.

[0222] When the discharge is stopped, the discharge voltage of the storage battery module 211 is V8, and the charge voltage of the storage battery module 212 is V9, which is higher than V8. That is, the controller 280 makes the voltage of the storage battery module 211 lower than that of the storage battery module 212 and thus makes a difference $V9 - V8 = \Delta V7$, and then stops the discharge.

[0223] FIG. 16 is a flowchart showing the operation of the power storage device 200 shown in FIG. 4 during a charge. In this example, first, the controller 280 starts to charge the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 (S301).

[0224] The controller 280 then measures the charge voltages of the storage battery blocks of each of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 using the detectors 231, 232, and 233 or the like (S302). The controller 280 then acquires the charge voltages of the respective storage battery blocks having the highest charge voltage of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 (S303).

[0225] The controller 280 then determines whether the respective highest charge voltages of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 are in the adjustment range (S304). If the highest charge voltages are not in the adjustment range (No in S304), the controller 280 repeats the measurement of the charge voltages (S302) and later steps. If the highest charge voltages are in the adjustment range (YES in S304), the controller 280 determines whether there is a great difference in the degree of degradation among the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 (S305).

[0226] Specifically, the controller 280 acquires the degrees of degradation of the respective most highly degraded storage battery blocks of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213. The controller 280 then determines whether the differences among the highest degrees of degradation acquired from the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 are greater than a predetermined value.

[0227] If the differences are not greater than the predetermined value (NO in S305), the controller 280 continues the charge as usual. On the other hand, if there is a great difference in the degree of degradation (YES in S305), the controller 280 determines the amounts of adjustment currents (S306). For example, if there is a greater difference, the controller 280 increases the amounts of the bypassing currents. The controller 280 then drives the adjusters 261, 262, and 263 and controls the adjusters 261, 262, and 263 so that the adjustment currents in the determined amounts flow (S307).

[0228] At this time, the controller 280 determines the amounts of adjustment currents in such a manner that a storage battery module having the highest degree of degradation, of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 does not reach a full charge, and then controls the adjusters 261, 262, and 263 so that the adjustment currents in the determined amounts flow. In this case, the storage battery

module having the highest degree of degradation is a storage battery module including a most highly degraded storage battery block, of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213.

[0229] The controller 280 then determines whether one of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 has reached a full charge, using the detectors 231, 232, and 233 or the like (S308). The controller 280 continues the charge until one of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 reaches a full charge. When one of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 reaches a full charge, the controller 280 ends the charge (S309).

[0230] For example, the controller 280 adjusts the amounts of the currents flowing through the adjusters 261, 262, and 263 so that a storage battery module having the lowest degree of degradation of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 reaches a full charge first. The degrees of degradation of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 correspond to the degrees of degradation of the respective most highly degraded storage battery blocks of the respective storage battery modules.

[0231] FIG. 17 is a flowchart showing the operation of the power storage device 200 shown in FIG. 4 during a discharge. In this example, first, the controller 280 starts a discharge of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 (S401).

[0232] The controller 280 then measures the discharge voltages of the storage battery blocks of each of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 using the detectors 231, 232, and 233 or the like (S402). The controller 280 then acquires the discharge voltages of the respective storage battery blocks having the lowest discharge voltage of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 (S403).

[0233] The controller 280 then determines whether the lowest discharge voltages of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 are in the adjustment range (S404). If the lowest discharge voltages are not in the adjustment range (No in S404), the controller 280 repeats the measurement of the discharge voltages (S402) and later steps. If the lowest discharge voltages are in the adjustment range (YES in S404), the controller 280 determines whether there is a great difference in the degree of degradation among the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 (S405).

[0234] Specifically, the controller 280 acquires the degrees of degradation of the respective most highly degraded storage battery blocks of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213. The controller 280 then determines whether the differences among the highest degrees of degradation acquired from the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 are greater than a predetermined value.

[0235] If there is no great difference (NO in S405), the controller 280 continues the discharge as usual. On the other hand, if there is a great difference (YES in S405), the controller 280 determines the amounts of adjustment currents (S406). For example, if there is a greater difference, the controller 280 increases the amounts of bypassing currents. The controller 280 then drives the adjusters 261, 262, and 263 and controls the adjusters 261, 262, and 263 so that the adjustment currents in the determined amounts flow (S407).

[0236] At this time, the controller 280 determines the amounts of adjustment currents in such a manner that a storage battery module having the highest degree of degradation, of the storage battery modules 211, 212, and 213 does not reach an empty capacity, and then controls the